

Application No.: 10/695,657  
Amendment dated: August 4, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of May 4, 2005  
Attorney Docket No.: 21295.69

a.) Amendments to Specification

*Replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, paragraph [25], in the specification as originally filed, with the following rewritten paragraph:*

-- Bridge 3, together with first and second XYZ stage 8a and 8b, is mounted on a column 10 via a dovetail guide 11. By way of dovetail guide 11, bridge 3 attaches. Column 10 is displaceable in the Z direction, or vertically, relative to the surface of XYZ stages 8a and 8b. The movement of bridge 3 allows coarse focusing of the specimens, present on the two stages 8a and 8b, whose structures are to be compared. Column 10 itself is joined to a base 12 which is substantially wider than column 10 in order to achieve sufficient stability and steadiness for comparison optical system 1. Arranged between the first and on the second XYZ stage 8a and 8b is a control and adjustment apparatus 14 with which various functions of comparison optical system 1 can be adjusted or modified. Control and adjustment apparatus 14 possesses several actuation elements 14a with which various functions of comparison optical system 1 can be actuated. It is self-evident that control and adjustment apparatus 14 depicted in FIG. 1 can be variously embodied.--

*Replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, paragraph [31], in the specification as originally filed, with the following rewritten paragraph:*

--A comparison optical system (1) having an illumination system for specimens is ~~disclosed~~, the comparison optical system (1) being equipped with several macroscopes (2a, 2b). The macroscopes (2a, 2b) are connected to one another via a bridge (3). Each microscope (2a, 2b) is connected to an attachment device (25a, 25b) for the illumination system. The attachment device (25a, 25b) is constructed from several movable arms (30, 32, 35) and an adjustable holder (37) for a light source.--